



**Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí**

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5<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Deputy Richard Boyd-Barrett

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

**PQ 41505/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost of providing and staffing ten additional acute beds in a public hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Boyd-Barrett,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The following information has been provided by the Healthcare Pricing Office.

The average daily running cost of an in-patient hospital bed across acute hospitals can be calculated from the HSE annual pricing cycle as performed by the HSE Healthcare Pricing Office (HPO). This is €1,029 per day and represents the in-patient cost of an acute hospital bed including costs associated with:

- Clinical staffing
- Theatres
- Laboratories
- Non-clinical staffing
- Cleaning, maintenance and other running costs

The €1,029 is a 'fully-absorbed' cost which means it includes all treatment and care costs (such as diagnostics, theatres etc.) as well as running costs such as heating and lighting, servicing equipment etc. but excludes capital and depreciation. It does not include other associated hospital costs such as day case, outpatient and emergency department costs. The cost is calculated from costings submitted by hospitals under the Activity Based Funding programme and is based on 2019 data, the latest year for which information is available. This cost is a national average across all nights, all hospitals and all types of inpatient cases from the most routine to the most complex.

The estimated average running costs of in-patient hospital beds is based on the best information available at this time.

- Daily cost per bed €1,029
- Annual cost per bed €375,585
- Annual cost per 10 beds €3,755,850

Source: Healthcare Pricing Office Note: Based on 2019 data



Please note however that critical care bed costs are considerably higher, with Intensive Care Unit beds having a higher cost than High Dependency Unit beds.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carol Ivory', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

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**Carol Ivory**

**General Manager,**

**Acute Operations**